



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VIRGINIA

BULLETIN

Volume 37, Issue 6
April, 2009

P.O. Box 10133, Blacksburg, VA 24062-0133
(540) 951-0644; <http://civic.bev.net/lwvmc>

Make Reservations Now for League Programs

Breakfast with Blacksburg's Town Council

Tuesday, April 21, 7:30 a.m.

Holiday Inn University, Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg

Cost: \$10



Ron Rordam



Leslie Hager-Smith



Don Lehgrehr



Mike Rosenwzig



Alvah Leighton



Tom Sherman



Susan Anderson

Montgomery League Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 6 p.m.

Holiday Inn University, Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg

Cost: \$20

Topic: The Economic Crisis

Speaker: Juergen Fleck, Professor of Economics, Hollins University,
He is a Macro-Economist who teaches Monetary and Fiscal Policy.
A business meeting will follow Prof. Fleck's talk.



Juergen Fleck

Please let us know, as soon as possible, that you plan to attend. See forms on page 6.

First Tuesday Lunch May 5

Join your League friends for lunch at 11:30 a.m. and talk about hot public policy issues, League activities, or just about ourselves. Bogen's has set aside a room for us on the main floor of the restaurant.

The League of Women voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

To Contact the League

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(on leave until January)
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From the President

Annual Meeting, May 7, Features Juergen Fleck Official actions on officers, minutes, budget

Annual Meeting: Members attending the May 7 Annual Meeting will: a) Approve a budget for 2009 – 2010; 2) Elect Board Members for 2009 – 2010; and 3) Approve the minutes from the 2008 Annual Meeting. The Budget and Board nominees were printed in the March Bulletin. The 2008 minutes are in this Bulletin. Copies of the Agenda, the budget, nominations and the minutes will be available at the meeting.

State Convention To Be at Reston, May 2 - 3

The LWV VA biennial convention will be held in Reston on May 2 – 3. Karen Cronin has been nominated to be on the LWV VA Board as Publicity Chair.

Plan To Attend Freedom Fund Banquet, Oct. 3

NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet: Our League will again sponsor a table at the NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet on Saturday, October 3, at the Inn at Virginia Tech. Plan to join us. Tickets are \$40 with your League absorbing the sponsorship costs.

Downtowns Program To Be on WTOB

Downtowns Re-Visioned: If you missed our forum with downtown experts discussing how to revitalize our two downtowns, it is being shown on WTOB and it is available anytime on two web sites. See it on WTOB Thursdays at 3 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m..

On the Internet, go to www.historiccambria.com, then to Town of Christiansburg Information, or go to www.vaopengov.org and go to videos. We thank the Town of Blacksburg for making it available on WTOB and Carol Lindstrom for putting it on the two web sites that she manages.

Karen Cronin Honored for Community Work

Karen Cronin was one of the winners of the 2009 Leading Lights Neighbors Helping Neighbors Awards. Karen, who is the LWV MC 2nd Vice President, was campaign chair for the New River Valley United Way for three years, and, among numerous other volunteer activities, has especially directed her volunteer efforts towards eastern Montgomery County.

AARP Program on Health Care Reform on May 19

Bill Killio, State Director of Virginia AARP will address pending health care reform legislation, Tuesday, May 19, AARP program at the Blacksburg Community Center on Patrick Henry Drive. The public is welcome. The program is noon to 1:30 p.m.

Corrections to the Membership List: Donna Alvis-Banks' telephone number is 382-9440. Mary Ollendick's address is 800 Sunrise Drive in Blacksburg and her email address is ncovatech@gmail.com.

Josie Surface has a new email address, jagsurface@yahoo.com. Please telephone Betty Williams, 552-2357, or email Mary Houska, mfdh@aol.com, to correct your information.

League of Women Voters Montgomery County

The 2008 Annual meeting of the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County was held on May 12, from 6 to 9 p.m. Professor Karen Hult of the Political Science Department at Virginia Tech (and a member of the LWVMC) spoke on "Pogo Redux" Media Coverage and the 2008 Presidential Campaign."

A short business meeting occurred after the talk, chaired by President Mary Houska. She reviewed activities of the League for the past year.

After assuring that a quorum was present, the minutes of the 2007 annual meeting were presented. It was moved by Amy Mauldon, and seconded by Sheila Reyna that the minutes be accepted. Motion carried.

A proposed budget for the 2008-2009 year was submitted by Treasurer B. June Schmidt. After discussion, it was moved by Betty Williams and seconded by Bev Fleming that the proposed budget be adopted. Motion carried.

The following slate of officers was presented by Bobbie Littlefield, chair of the Nominating Committee :

Co-Second Vice Presidents Voter Service (08-10) Karen Cronin and Nancy Warren

Secretary (08-10) Barbara Boyd

Co-Membership Chairs (08-10) Betty Williams and Mary Jane Zody

Webmaster (08-10) Connie Anderson

Finance Chair (08-10) Harriett Cooper

Nominating Committee: Bobbie Littlefield, Carl McDaniels and Mary Swiger

As no nominations were received from the floor, the slate of officers was accepted.

Members were asked to approve minor adjustments to the LWVMC Positions for Action at the Annual Meeting. The Positions are found on page 14 of the latest LWVMC handbook.

1. Local position on redistricting and reapportionment: The first sentence should read "The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, cognizant that the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors will redistrict the County in 2011 (replacing 1991), as required by law makes the following recommendations...
2. Local Position on Budget-making Process. Substitute each local government for County in the recommendations so that they read
 - a. contains a statement that reflects the priorities and goals of each local government's financial policy and
 - b. gives a true picture of each local government's finances.

Both changes were approved,

The following items will be a focus of League activities for the upcoming year.

1. Reinstate the Breakfast with the School Board program
2. Work for reform in Christiansburg city government. In particular, there is concern about the lack of work sessions for the budget.
3. Continue the study of Felons Voting Rights.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.
Barbara Boyd, Secretary

Fund Drive Supports Programs about Local Issues

Many thanks to our members and other supporters who have contributed generously to our 2009 Fund Drive. Thus far the dollars have been slowly trickling in. I hope those of you who have been waiting to contribute take a look at the front page of the Roanoke Times Current (April 1 edition, no joke) to see what contributor's dollars can accomplish.

We have been aware for some time that the decline of the downtowns in both Blacksburg and Christiansburg has been a troubling issue for our area's residents. Responding to this concern our League planned,

coordinated and hosted a panel discussion entitled, "The Downtowns – Re-Visioned." Discussants, with different area of expertise, shared their ideas and answered questions from the audience.

The program was replayed on WTOB Channel 2, on three more days.

We want to continue to bring challenging issues before our community, and bring together experts who can offer solutions for us to consider. So if you have not yet contributed to our Fund Drive, please do so now, so we can continue making our contribution.

We thank these contributors

Members

Bea Ake in honor of Eloise Woods
Nancy Alexander
Darlene Allen
Connie Anderson
Susan Anderson
Jeanie Baker
Deborah and Robert Barrow
Isabel Berney
Bev Fleming
Mary Houska in honor of Terry-Ellen Carter,
Meghan Dorsett, Ann Hess, Carol Lindstrom
and Tacy Newell-Foutz for their dedication
to their Town
Mary Ann Johnson
Julia Lewis
Bobbie Littlefield
Sallie Mackie
Ruth (Betty) Mercier
Joseph & Catherine Merola
Rhoda Myers
Pam Newby in honor of Phyllis Hale
Beth Obenshain

Deloris Pourchot in appreciation for all that Mary
Houska has done for the LWV
David Scheim in memory of Derek Myers
Judy Snoke
Daisy Stewart
Mary Swiger
Jo Ann Underwood
Lindsay West
Betty Williams
Millie Wiggert in honor of Phyllis Albritton

Friends

Gerry Anderson in memory of Arlene Anderson
Dr. & Mrs. E. Neal Boyd
Companion Animal Clinic
Leslie Hager-Smith in memory of Nadine Newcomb
Robert M. Hendickson
Marilyn Klemperer
Rita Carolyn Lange
Lelia Mayton
Leanne Mitchell
Sue & John Muffo

First Tuesday Lunches To Continue in Summer

First Tuesday lunches will continue throughout the summer at 12 noon on the first Tuesdays of each month at Bogens. Join us to talk about the latest in public policy debates, vacations, gardens or whatever interests us. Email reminders will be sent out to our members. Put the First Tuesday dates from this Bulletin calendar on your calendar.

VAOPENGOV.ORG

New League Website On Citizens Rights

VAOPENGOV.ORG: We have a second web site!
To fulfill our commitment to the LWV US Education Fund Citizen Initiative for Transparency grant, Carol Lindstrom is developing a web site to help citizens learn their rights under the federal and Virginia Freedom of Information Acts. Check it out at www.vaopengov.org.

Reservation Forms for April Events

Please make reservations immediately. The hotel needs to know the numbers of persons expected in order to make preparations.

Blacksburg Town Council Breakfast, Tuesday, April 21- \$10

Need reservations by April 18 to give hotel number of persons expected.

To make reservations for the Breakfast, send this form and check made out to LWV MC to Amy Mauldon, 1417 Locust Drive, Blacksburg 24060, or email: amauldon@gmail.com, or telephone: 951-1534

I (We) will be at the Breakfast with Blacksburg Town Council Members, Tuesday, April 21, 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg.

A check for \$10 per person, is enclosed.

Montgomery League Annual Meeting, Thursday, May 7 - \$20

Need reservations by May 4 to give hotel number of persons expected. Guests are welcome at the session

To make reservations for the Annual Meeting, send this form and your check made out to LWV MC to Mary Houska, 2301 Spring Hollow Lane, Blacksburg 24060, email: mfdh@aol.com or telephone: 552-2717.

I (We) will be at the annual meeting, Thursday, May 7, 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg.

Circle your meal choice

Red Hen (boneless chicken breast stuffed with spinach with a Roasted Red Pepper Sauce)

Salmon Tennessee (Salmon Fillet which can be ordered with or without a Bourbon glaze, please specify)

Stuffed Peppers (Vegan, Peppers stuffed with Couscous, served with roasted seasonal vegetables)

All meals will be served with a salad and guests can select their desserts from a dessert table.

A check for \$20 per person is enclosed.

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Calendar

April 21, 7:30 a.m.	Breakfast with the Blacksburg Town Council, Holiday Inn University, Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg
April 21, noon	Town Finance Study Group, Easy Chair, University Mall, Blacksburg
May 2 – 3	LWV VA Convention, Sheraton Hotel, Reston
May 5, noon	First Tuesday informal lunch, Bogen's, Main Street, Blacksburg
May 7, 6 p.m.	Annual Meeting, Prof. Juergen Fleck will discuss "The Economic Crisis", Holiday Inn University, Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg
May 13, 1 p.m.	LWV MC Board meeting, Children's Reading Room, public library in Blacksburg
June 2, noon	First Tuesday informal lunch, Bogen's, Main Street, Blacksburg
July 7, noon	First Tuesday informal lunch, Bogen's, Main Street, Blacksburg
August 4, noon	First Tuesday informal lunch, Bogen's, Main Street, Blacksburg
September 1, noon	First Tuesday informal lunch, Bogen's, Main Street, Blacksburg

JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS TODAY

Become a member of the League of Women Voters. The annual membership fee is \$40 for new members (half year dues from January 1 to May 31 are \$20). This payment includes local, state, and national membership dues. Members receive The National Voter, The Virginia Voter, and The Montgomery County Bulletin. Annual dues for renewing LWVMC members are \$45. Mail to: Betty Williams, Membership Chair, 607 Progress St., Blacksburg, VA 24060, or call 552-2357, or email Mary Houska at mfdh@aol.com

Kay C. Stratton, realtor, Long and Foster (540) 392-7897 kay@kaystratton.com